Saskatchewan
Ministry of
Agriculture

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All stated cattle prices are based on the weekly Canfax Market Outlook and Summary.
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Cattle Market Update

For the Week Ending October 4, 2013

All prices are quoted in Canadian dollars per hundredweight ($/cwt) unless otherwise stated.

Feeder Cattle

Steers

	Range	Average	Change from last week
300-400	170-206	184.90	+4.20
400-500	165-191	174.40	+2.40
500-600	155-175	164.13	+3.42
600-700	145-163	154.42	+1.27
700-800	137-155	147.40	-0.85
800-900	133-148	141.10	-0.40
900+	127-142	133.58	-0.42

Heifers

	Range	Average	Change from last week
300-400	144-174	156.50	+2.17
400-500	140-165	149.10	+3.35
500-600	133-152	140.58	+1.01
600-700	128-143	135.57	+0.29
700-800	125-138	132.08	+0.08
800+	122-135	128.88	+0.77

Source: Canfax.
Note: Prices are determined from Saskatchewan auction marts' reports of sale results from Thursday of the previous week to Thursday of the current week.

Canfax reported that a total of 8,526 head of cattle were sold in Saskatchewan this week, down from 10,356 head marketed the previous week.

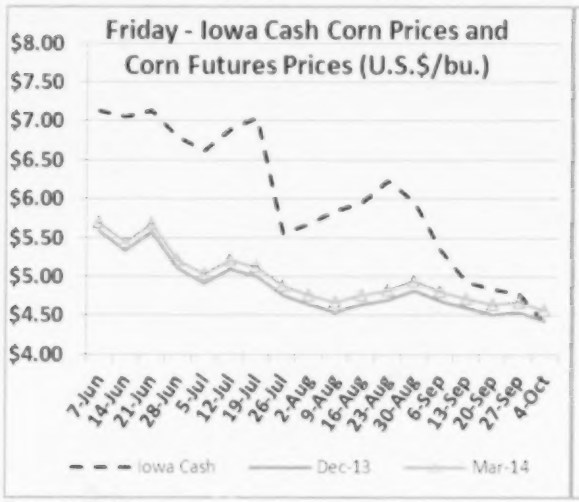
Feeder cattle prices were mostly higher over the week except for some small losses in the heavier weight feeder steer categories. Average prices for feeder steers ranged from $0.85 per cwt lower to $4.20 per cwt higher over the week. Light weight feeder steers had the biggest gains from the previous week with the 300-400 lb. weight category increasing $4.20 per cwt while the 500-600 lb. weight category increasing $3.42 per cwt. Feeder steers over 700 lb. had small losses with the 700-800 lb. weight category losing the most at $0.85 per cwt.

Feeder heifer prices were higher over the week. Feeder heifer prices ranged from almost unchanged to $3.35 per cwt higher. The 300-400 lb. weight category increased $2.17 per cwt while the 400-500 lb. weight category increased the most at $3.35 per cwt. There were smaller increases in the remaining heavier weight categories.

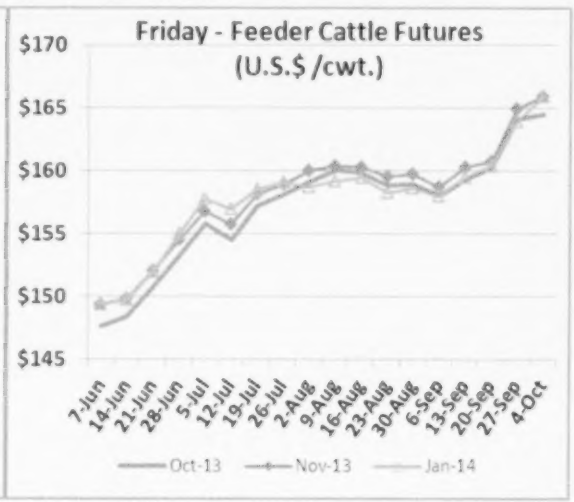
The Saskatchewan 750 lb. feeder steer basis compared to the October 3, 2013 U.S. feeder cattle index was not available due to the United States federal government shutdown which forced the Agriculture Department to cease collections of many agriculture statistics. This includes daily and weekly slaughter numbers, meat production, and cash market prices.

Feeder cattle futures prices were higher over the week with the October to January contracts increasing between US$0.32 per cwt and US$2.10 per cwt, week-over-week. The October feeder contract settled at US$164.450 per cwt while the January contract had the largest increase and settled the week at US$165.950 per cwt.

Corn prices overall moved lower over the week with harvest underway. The Iowa cash price declined about 37 cents to close Thursday at US$4.41 per bushel, while the December corn futures contract decreased about 11 cents to close the week at US$4.43 per bushel.



Source: CME



Source: CME

Live cattle futures prices were mixed but mostly higher for later contracts. The October to February contracts ranged from US$0.200 per cwt lower to US$0.425 per cwt higher. The October contract settled at US$128.05 per cwt while the February contract settled the week at US$134.30 per cwt. The lack of U.S. production and price information from the U.S. government shutdown has likely made the markets more cautious in the short-term.

Fed and Non-fed Cattle

	October 4	September 27	Change
Cows (Alberta)			
D1,2 Live	78.94	78.00	+0.94
D3 Live	70.83	69.30	+1.53
Rail	150-155	150-155	+0.00

Source: Canfax.

Prices for liveweight, non-fed cattle in Alberta were higher from the previous week with D1,2 slaughter cows increasing $0.94 per cwt to average $78.94 per cwt, while D3 slaughter cows increased $1.53 per cwt to average $70.83 per cwt, from last week.

Fed cattle prices in Western Canada were lower over the week. Fed steers in Alberta were reported to average $117.84 per cwt, down $1.50 per cwt from $119.34 per cwt the previous week.

Friday Price Information

Product		This Week (October 4)	Week of: (September 27)
Canadian Dollar (closing rate US$)		.9716	.9706
U.S. Cash Cattle			
Thurs. Feeder Cattle (FC) Index (US$ per cwt)		NA	159.36
Seven-day Weighted Average FC Index Wt. (lb.)		NA	761
Live Fed 5-area Steer Price (US$ per cwt)		NA	125.80
Feed Grains			
Barley	Lethbridge ($/tonne)	NA	178.00
	($ per bu.)	NA	3.87
Corn	Iowa State Average (CDN$/tonne)*	178.69	193.88
	(US$ per bu.)	4.41	4.78
	Omaha, NE (CDN$/tonne)*	NA	184.95
	(US$ per bu.)	NA	4.56
Futures			
	December Corn (US$ per bu.)	4.43¼	4.54
	March Corn (US$ per bu.)	4.56	4.66½
	October Live Cattle (US$ per cwt)	128.050	128.250
	December Live Cattle (US$ per cwt)	132.425	132.075
	October Feeder Cattle (US$ per cwt)	164.450	164.125
	January Feeder Cattle (US$ per cwt)	165.950	163.850

Sources: Bank of Canada, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME), ICE Futures Canada and USDA Livestock & Grain Market News
* conversion to CDN$ is based on Friday's CDN$ closing rate

For more information contact: **Brad Marceniuk, PAg**
Livestock Economist
306-933-5098
brad.marceniuk@gov.sk.ca